

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04485 281102Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----281311 071248 /53

R 281026Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9659
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T BANGKOK 4485

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR EAID ASEAN JA TH US
SUBJECT: MEETING ON ASEAN OF JAPANESE AMBASSADORS

1. I HAVE BEEN CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED BY AMBASSADOR HITOMI OF JAPAN THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN ASEAN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SUMMONED TO TOKYO THE WEEK OF MARCH 7 FOR INTENSIVE BRIEFINGS OF PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA PRIOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. ACCORDING TO HITOMI, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PLACE GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE QUESTION OF JAPANESE AND US RELATIONS WITH ASEAN IN THE COURSE OF THESE TALKS.

2. HITOMI WENT ON TO SAY THAT JAPAN CONSIDERED SOUTHEAST ASIA TO BE AN AREA OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, AND THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HOPED THIS VIEW WOULD BE SHARED BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. FOR EXAMPLE, JAPAN INTENDED TO PROVIDE THAILAND NEXT YEAR WITH SOFT LOANS (THREE PERCENT INTEREST)

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ON THE ORDER OF 70 TO 80 MILLION DOLLARS. HE SAID THAT JAPAN HOPED THAT THE US WOULD REMAIN ECONOMICALLY INVOLVED IN THE AREA WITH BOTH THE US GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE COMPANIES HELPING THE ASEAN COUNTRIES WITH THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

3. I THANKED HITOMI FOR THIS INFORMATION AND

COMMENTED THAT FOR THE TIME BEING OUR DWINDLING
AID PROGRAM WAS CONCENTRATED ON POPULATION
PROBLEMS AND NARCOTICS. AMERICAN COMPANIES
SEEMED INTERESTED IN THAILAND BUT POLITICAL
UNCERTAINTIES HAD CERTAINLY AFFECTED THE INVESTMENT
CLIMATE.
WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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